

JUNE 7, 1965

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Washington Whispers®

The White House is known to be concerned about the number of extreme "left-wingers" getting across their views in newspapers and on television and adding to U. S. troubles.

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A report that Adm. William Raborn, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, "sold" President Johnson on sending troops into the Dominican Republic is wholly in error. The President acted before he had a personal report from Admiral Raborn and wasted no time when the U. S. Ambassador in Santo Domingo telephoned from under his desk with rebel bullets sailing through his office, clearly audible at the Washington end of the line.

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The President and Admiral Raborn as the CIA head conduct all of their conversations on a telephone line in which voices are scrambled and which cannot be "bugged."

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President Johnson's opponents on Vietnam policy are gambling on a long war in that far-off part of the world which they think will grow unpopular with voters as casualties rise and draft calls grow.

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Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, former Republican President, is a great help to Mr. Johnson with advice on dealing

with such situations as in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic.

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Hubert Humphrey, Vice President, is tending to be out of the mainstream of developments since the President is not interested—at least for now—in "good will" trips to various corners of the world. There is a great question being raised about how much good those trips by a President or Vice President accomplish.

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Reports have it that there have been differences over the U. S. approach in striving for a new Government in the Dominican Republic. McGeorge Bundy, White House aide, was pictured as more sympathetic to Colonel Caamaño, the rebel commander, and Thomas C. Mann, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs and Latin-American specialist, as more sympathetic to General Imbert.

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One U. S. view is that it is going to be necessary to write off the present

generation of Dominicans as hopeless because more than 30 years of rule by the dictator Trujillo wiped out really competent leaders, and now it will be necessary to look to the oncoming generation to provide competent leadership.

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Latin Americans, reading American newspapers and listening to broadcasts, profess to be more bewildered than ever about U. S. policy in the Dominican Republic because conflicting points of view are noted.

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General de Gaulle, President of France, is preparing this demand: If U. S. troops and installations and bases of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization are to remain in France they must be placed under French command. Any units or installations not under French command will need to get out. If U. S. objects, the argument goes, then U. S. and NATO will be leaving France and not France pulling out of NATO.

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The British Government is prepared to consider a U. S. request for a brigade of Gurkhas for use in South Vietnam if the U. S. pays for recruiting and maintaining the force. Gurkha mercenaries in the British Army are doing much of the fighting in Malaysia against Indonesian infiltrators.

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Chiang Kai-shek, with his large Nationalist Chinese Army on Formosa, wonders why U. S. does not accept his offer of several divisions for use in South Vietnam, particularly since the South Vietnamese say these troops would be welcomed. Nationalist Chinese feel opposition to use of Chinese troops must lie in Washington.